BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

The Railroads and the Lobbymen-Sharp Practice-Nearly a Million of Dollars Expended by the Railroad Compaules in the Lobby.

Report of Senator Hale's Committee.

ALBANY, March 11, 1869. Mr. Hale, from the select committee to investigate

resolution passed April 10, 1868, to inquire and ascer-tain "whether any party or parties interested in sup-porting or approxing any measures relating to railway companies have either in person or by agent directly or indirectly paid or offered to pay any nember or members of the Senate during that ses his or their vote or action in Senate or committee," and the further resolution passed May 1, 1868, by which said committee was authorized to sit during of the Senate, respectfully report:-

That your committee entered immediately upon the duties assigned to them and have been engaged in the investigation on which they entered at varius times during the session of 1868, the recess of the

Your committee's attention has been called princi-pally to the great contest of last session between the friends and opponents of what was commonly known as the "Erie bill," which resulted in the passage of the act entitled "An act in relation to the Erie, New York Central, Hudson River and Harlem

Railway companies," passed April 21, 1868.
Your committee first called before them and examined some of those who had been by rumor most widely designated as lobbyists or persons in attendance on the Legislature, engaged on either side of this controversy. Messrs. John B. Dutcher and Abraham Van Vechten, who were known as oppo-nents of the oill, and Messrs. Hugh J. Hastings, Jay Gould, Julian Williams and Dver D. S. Brown, who were among the advocates of the measure; also the treasurers of the Hudson River and Harlem rail-roads, corporations supposed to be interested in opposing the bill.

These persons all denied any knowledge or information, other than that derived from common rumor, of the use or offer of any money or valuable thing, or any promise or offer of moneys for the purpose

indicated in the resolution.

The attention of your committee was next called to an article in the New York *Tribune*, charging that one Senator has taken money on both sides, and that over \$100,000 has been paid to influence corruptly the action of other Senators in the premises. They summoned before them the writer of this article, Mr. Horace Greeley, to ascertain the evidence upon which it was written. The name of Mr. Thomas C. Fields was given by Mr. Greeley as that of his in formant. Your committee accordingly examined him, and also Senator Mattoon and Mr. Asahai W. Coie, whose names were mentioned by Mr. Greeley. Toward the close of the session a Senator who had received information that led nim to believe that a fibbries in the distance. Toward the close of the session a senator who had received information that led him to believe that a fobbyist had attempted to get money from the friends of the "fire bill," on the prefence that he could thereby secure his vote, called the attention of your committee to such information, in consequence of which subpremas were issued, and after some difficulty the attendance of Mr. John Van Vatkenburgh, was procured. The tacts, as testified to by him, are stated in the subsequent part of this report.

Other witnesses were then called, as the facts developed and statements made to your committee seemed to require. The evidence reported maving been taken at various times, as the presence of witnesses could be obtained, is without arrangement; much of it, too, is simply of a negative character. Your committee, therefore, think it necessary in this report to state some of the material acts proved and the nearing they have upon the subject matter of the investigation.

The first inquiry materially suggested was whether noney was actually expended by railway companies with the intent that it should be used for unawful purposes?

The treasurers of the lindson filter and lattern

Purposes? The treasurers of the Hudson River and Harlein The treasurers of the Hudson River and Harlem rainwads both testify that no money was drawn from the treasures of their roads for the purpose reterred to. Mr. Draw, the treasurer of the Eric Railway Company until July, 1885, also swears that he had no knowledge of any money being paid out the treasury of that company for the purpose of procuring legislation; but he testifies that Mr. Edwidge, the president of the road, drew \$500,000 out of the treasury before the session of the Legislature, ostensibly for purposes of litigation, which was charged on the books of the company to Mr. Edwidge individually, and which had not been accounted for when he retired from the office of treasurer in July last, and that no money other than that had been drawn out of the treasury to pay the expenses of the company at Albany. It is evident from the testimony that large amounts of money were actually paid for various purposes. Mr. Goud

parson the thinks his name was Whilam king for Mr. B. D. G. Brown, of Bochester, and something more than \$25,000 and he thinks, less than \$20,000, not including payments by draft, to counsel and agents. Mr. Thouspaon paid \$4,000 to Payme and upwards of \$00,000 to Luther Caldwell, which was refunded to him by the Erie Indiaway Company.

It is clear, therefore, that the Brown Railway Company.

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It is clear, therefore, that the Brown Railway Company of the Company. The obstitute of the expenditure cannot be learned from the books of the company. The testimony of Mr. Drew shows where those funds may have come from. Whether the creation of so large a find as that entrusted to Mr. Eldridge in this metance, the expenditure of which is left entirely to the discretion of a single individual, and for which no vouchers or accounts are required, is usual with railroad companies your committee are not informed. It is a question of more lutine diate interest to stockholders of these companies.

Mr. Eldridge being a clitter of the committee could reside the stockholders of these companies.

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Mr. Eldridge being a clitter of the committee have been able to obtain any direct evidence, the more stockholders of the purpose of misuncing legislation quality for the purpose of misuncing legislation quality for the purpose of misuncing legislation quality for the purpose of th

as "they," and that "somewhere in that connection the name of John B. Dutcher was mentioned."

On General Diven's examination he was asked if he had any knowledge of money being placed in the hands of Luther Caidwell by the Eris Railway Company. His answer was "No." He was then asked if he had any information on that subject derived from any officer or agent of the company. He replied that he had been told by Henry Thompson, a director of the company, that Caldwell had received a large sum of money, something like \$100,000, just before—a day or so before—the vote was taken, and that he had kept if and left the city. Mr. Caldwell himself, after several unsuccessful efforts to procure his attendance, appeared before your committee on the day preceding the commencement of the present session of the Senate. In reply to questions whether he received any money from any officer of the Eric Railway Company, to be used in securing the passage of the bill he answered in the negative. A question whether he received money from such source for any purpose he declined to answer till he could "turn it over in his mind," He also declined to answer till he could "turn it over in his mind," He also declined to answer till he could "turn it over in his mind," He also declined to answer till he could whether he knew of moneys being paid by any person, thierested for or against the bill, to any one for the purpose of securing the vote of any Senator, and whether he received money from any person interested in opposing the bill. He said he could decide whether he would answer these questions by the next morning, and the committee adjourned to the next morning to give him the desired opportunity for reflection. Your committee were in attendance the next day at the appointed hour and place, but Mr. Caldwell de not appears in this season in some of the Southern States.

Mr. Russell F. Hicks, whose name appears in this testimony in connection with Mr. Caldwell's, was subpensed, but did not attend, alleging ill health as an excuse.

Mr.

subpounsed, but did not attend, alleging in heaten as an excuse.

Mr. Henry Thompson has since testified that he paid Caidwell at one time \$10,000 and afterwards apward of \$50,000, which was refunded to him by the Erie Railway Company, and which was for no specific burpose, miess to influence public opinion through the press. Mr. E. Madden swears that he was told by Mr. Gould that Caidwell had been to him to get money, as he pretended, for a Senator and Member of Assembly, which he (Gould) had peremptorily refused. Mr. Madden also testifies that Caidwell told him, just before he left Albany, that he had seen ex-Senator Dutcher on the Harlem Railroad the day before.

torily refused. Mr. Madden also testides that Caldwell told him, just before he left Albany, that he had seen ex-Senator Dutcher on the Harlen Railroad the day before.

By Senator Nicks' testimony it will be seen that Mr. Caldwell claimed that the money he received from the "Erie party" was for his "services," and that received from the "Vanderbilt party" was for leaving Albany.

It will hardly be believed by the most credulous that so large an amount, more than men even of great learning and distinguished ability ordinarily acquire by a lifetime of industry, was paid by either of these parties simply for a few weeks "services" or the short absence from Albany of Mr. Luther Caldwell.

If these large amounts were paid to Mr. Caldwell for any lawful purpose and such purpose was accomplished, or the money used in good faith, as was intended, there would probably be no hesitation on the part of those having knowledge in furnishing proof of the facts. If, as would seem from the evidence, these having knowledge in furnishing proof of the facts. If, as would seem from the evidence, these having knowledge in furnishing and and appropriated by the agent selected to his own use, the fact that no proceedings, civil or criminal, appear to have been instituted against the agent raises a strong presumption that it was paid for some unlawful purpose. In that case those who alone would be likely to complain of the frauduient diversion might well fear that a crimmal prosecution would develop too much and show too many criminals, while the legal maxim, "in part delictu," &c., would prove a serious obstacle to success in a civil action.

Your committee think there can be no doubt that so large Sams must have been untended chiefly for

develop too much and show too many criminals, while the legal maxim, "in part delicin," &c., would prove a serious obstacle to success in a civil action.

Your committee think there can be no doubt that so large sums must have been intended chiefly for uniawful and corrupt purposes, and, taking this in connection with the evidence of Mr. Drew and the evidence of the existence of so many rumors about the uniawful use of money, the conviction is forced upon the minds of your committee, as they think it must be upon those of all who peruse this testimony, that some persons interested, both for and against the bill, were furnishing money from some source with the ment and for the purpose of corrupting and unlawfully indicated upon the payment of money to and its acceptance by any members of the Senate.

This inquiry, carried on by members of the body whose reputation is affected by the charge, is, of course, one of great delicacy and difficulty. Your commantee could not assume, without any charge being made against any Senator, that any charge being made against on their persons who were referred to in the testimony or otherwise as having knowledge or information on the subject.

The first editor called was Mr. Greeley. He bad, in an article in the New York Tribine, used this imguage:—"Can Senator Fouger really mean to scout investigation as useless? Does he hot know that quite a number of his fellow Senators have soid their votes in the Drew-Vanderbilt quarrel, some of them more than once? Can he not bay his hand at once on the senator who is currently reported to have sold his vote and influence first for \$16,000 and the roots which he replied, "I do not know that i have especially. I have the information in regard to Mr. Mattoon, to which he replied, "Senator Mattoon," and gav

knowledge.
The Lansingburg Gazette contained an article,
charging that Scholor Mattoon had received \$20,000

knowledge.

The Lansingburg Gazette contained an article, charging that senator Mattoon had received \$20,000 from Jay Gold to sign a report in his favor, and what turned squarely around and made a different report." Your committee called before them Mr. Kirkpatrics, the editor of this paper, who testified that he knew nothing of this transaction, and during the time of the control of this paper, who testified that he knew nothing of this transaction, and during which the article, but that it was written by one F. B. Hubball, then clerk of a committee in the Assembly. Mr. Hubball was afterwards called and examined, and admitted that he wrote the article, but testified that he had no knowledge on the subject and no information except what was derived from some person who said he had got his information from a letter published in the New York Trionne.

Mr. Mactoon himself was sworn and examined at length and testified that he had never, directly or indirectly, received or been offered or promised any money or other valuable thing to affect his vote or action in the premises.

Your committee also, in view of the charges made against Mr. Mattoon, examined many witnesses with riference to the interviews of that Senator View and the premise of the five role of the series of the Eric Rahroal Company after his appointment upon the investigating committee, of which Senator Pierce was chairman. The attention of Mr. Gould, General liven, lar. Fisk, Mr. Drew and others was called to these aberviews, and all the witnesses so examined deny hay knowledge of any payment or any offer or promise of any paymen

grapher to Mr. Mattoon, who gave his read by the flenoconversation with Drew, and dended most positively
that he had in any way injunated that he would receive anything for nimself or any other person for
his action in the premises.

A brief statement in a chronological order of Mr.
Mattoon's connection with the investigation may
throw some legis upon the question. On the 5th day
of March, 1868, Senator Pierce introduced a preamnic and resolution recuting that grave charges had
been made in reference to the management of the
Eric Railway Company; that the general managemeat of the company was conducted by persons who
systematically ande use of their positions to depreciate and desiroy the value of the stock of the
company, and that the directors had issued a larger
amount of the stock than was allowed by law, and
providing for the appointment of a committee of
three Senators to investigate such charges. This
preamble and resolution were adopted. On the following day Senator Mattoon moved that the committee consists of ave instead of three Senators. It
was so ordered, and Senators Pierce, Chapman,
Humpbrey, Mattoon and Bradley were appointed
such committee.

On the 10th day of March the committee thus appointed commence at investigations in the city of
Sew York. On that day, or the day before, General
Diven testified that Senator Mattoon called at the
office of the Eric Railway in New York and saw several directors, and, among other things, stated "what
he regarded as the object and purpose of moving
for the committee, and what his motive was for
moving for merease of the committee, and to procure himself to be placed upon it; that the object of
moving for mecease of the committee, and to procure himself to be placed upon it; that the object of
moving for mecease of the committee, and to procure himself to be placed upon to the state that he
did not mean the examination, and he had procured
his son to te made Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms; that
he was to serve without cost to the State; that

were in consultation in preparing a report to some extent favorable to inhal was understood to be the Erie or Drew side of the question.

Tuesday morning, March 31, read a draft of a proposed report to Senators Humphrey and Mattoon, which he understood them both to approve, and to which Senator Mattoon made no objection. The same day all the members of the committee met. Senators Pierce and Bradley signed their report. Senators Chapman and Humphrey signed theirs. Senator Mattoon did not sign either, but expressed the opinion that both were "pretty strong," and he wanted to think of it.

Wednesslay, April 1, Senator Mattoon joined with Senators Pierce and Bradley in making a report sustaining to the fullest extent the charge referred to in the original resolution, characterpxing the conduct of Mr. Drew as "disgracefull"—expressing the feeling that Eidfdige. First and Gould "were concerned and probably interested with Drew in these corrupt proceedings"—charging that these acis were without "authority of law," and that the directors named had taken "advantage of their position and inducence for purposes of private gain and emolument," and recommending additional legislation to impose increased penatics for such offences. The same day Senators Chapman and Humphrey presented the report read the preceding day by Senator Chapman as above stated, signed by themselves alone, as a minority report.

Mr. Gould testifies that he was perfectly astounded when he heard that Senator Mattoon had signed this report.

On the 18th day of April, 1938, the "act in relation to the Erie, New York Central, Hudson River and Harlem railway companies" was amounted for its third reading and passed the Senate by seventeen affirmative votes, one of which was given by Senator Mattoon.

In the Supply bill for 1858 (Session Laws 1958, page

Mattoon.

In the Supply bill for 1868 (Session Laws 1868, page 1,586) we find the item, "For J. II. Mattoon for services and expenses as clerk and assistant sergeant at-arms of the committee of the Senate appointed to investigate the affairs of the Erie Railway Company, 4100."

The course of Senator Mattoon while upon an investigating committee, in repeatedly paying private visits to persons whose conduct was the subject of investigation for the purpose of conferring with them as to matters before the committee, cannot be justified and has not been excased. But the evidence taken before your committee upon a full examination of all persons who were known to have made charges against him, and all who had been named as parties with whom he had had improper transactions, does not prove the charge that he was "paid or promised any money or other valuable thing to influence his vote or action in Senate or committee."

No evidence has been given nor any charge mase affecting any other Senator, except that Mr. Drew also testified to a conversation with Senator Graham, from which he "drew an inference" that that Senator wanted money or a promise of money.

Mr. Graham himself denies the use of the language attributed to him by Mr. Drew, and wholly denies the imputation of seeking or asking for any reward. It appears that Mr. Drew had before had personal difficulty both with Senator Graham and Senator Mattoon, and a long liligation with the latter.

The testimony taken before your committee shows very clearly the reckless manner in which charges attributing crimes to public men, and involving ruin and disgrace to those charged, are made by persons connected with the public press.

The New York Tribune, in a conspicuous editorial, charged interrogatively, but no less clearly than if the allegation had been direct), that one of the oldest Senators in this body knew "that quite a number of his fellow Senators had sold their votes in the Drew-Vanderbit quarrel, some of them more than once." Upon examining Mr. Greeley, who wrote the article, it appeared that he had no knowledge. The writer for the Lansinghug paper named a gentleman as having been gulity of the crime of bribery upon no ground other than a statement of what somebody had told him he had read in the New York Tribune, not even taking the trouble to read the article referred to as authority.

The case of Mr. John F. Mines, a correspondent of the New York Tribune, not even taking the trouble to read the article referred to as authority. The case of Mr. John F. Mines, a correspondent of the Crime of bribery upon no ground other than a statement of what somebody had told him he had read in the New York Tribune, not even taking the trouble to read the article referred to as authority. The case of Mr. John F. Mines, a correspondent of the Crime of bribery upon no ground other than which such charges are somethines made, the wind had not the particle of the Empire State." White a

verting attention from those who deserve censure and punishment.

The result of the labors of your committee may be summarily stated thus:

1. Large sums of money were expended for corrupt purposes by parties interested in legislation concerning railways during the session of lsos.

2. Lobbyists were thus enriched, and in some cases received money on the false pretence that the votes of Senators were to be thereby inducated.

3. There is no proof of actual bribery of any Senator.

4. The newspaper charges made in the instances that were brought to the notice of your committee were iounded on rumor alone and have been in no case sustained by the evidence of the writers or other proof.

that were brought to the notice of your committee were ionated on rumor alone and have been in no case sustained by the evidence of the writers or other proof.

Your committee deem it their duty, however, to express the opinion that under the law as it now exists it is aimost impossible to prove the crime of bribery where it has been committed. Both the parties to the transaction (who alone can ordinarily have knowledge of the commission of the crime) are now haple to the same punishment. True, the testimony given by one on the trial of another cannot be used against the person testifying; but the witeges well knows that such tostifying; but the witeges well knows that such tostifying; but the witeges well knows that such tostifying; but the witeges well those that such tostifying; but the witeges well to evidence by which he himself can be convicted and punished. The result is either a refusal to testify or remarkable forgetfulness or something worse. Your committee therefore recommend a change in the law as it now exists, by which the giver of a bribe, which is accepted, shall be exempt from prosecution. They recommend this not from any disposition to palliate the guilt of the party giving bribes, but because public policy requires that the means of obtaining proof should be facilitated, and this can be done only by exempting from punishment one of the guilty parties. The guilt of the party who, by accepting a bribe betrays a public trust and violates his official oath, is (if there can be degrees in guilt of this kind greater than that of him who gives it. At all events your committee submit that the Legislature owes it to its own reputation and dignity to adopt such measures as are best adapted to remove every obstacle that now exists to a full and thorough investigation as to the conduct of any of its members. This change in the existing law, after much discussion in the preceding in the party who, by accepting a full of the party who, by anyour proposed new constitution, and has frequently been urged upon

files of the senate.

It is, perhaps, proper to state that Senator Edwards, who was originally upon the committee, was at the close of the last session excused from serving upon it further, and that Senator Nichols was then appointed in his place. All which is respectfully submitted.

Manch 10, 1809.

THE ALLEGANY COUNTY MURDER—CONVICTION OF CARPENTER.—Attorney General Champiain was absent from Albany last week, in attendance upon the Allogany Court of Oyer and Terminer. He was engaged on behalf of the people in the trial of David-H. Carpenter for the murder of his brother. Mr. A. P. Lanning, of Burfalo, was connise for the prisoner. A strong effort was made to acquit Carpenter on the pies of insanity. After an absence of six hours the jury returned a verdict of murder in the Brist degree. Carpenter was sentenced to be hung on the 16th day of next April. The trial attracted a large share of public attention in the locality where it occurred, and the verdict of the jury is considered a just one.—Rochester Union, Murch 13.

EUROPE.

The arrivals from Europe Jesterday were the steamship Pereire, Captain Duchesne, from Havre via Brest on the 27th ult., and the Russia, Captain via Brest on the 27th uit., and the Russia, captain Cook, from Liverpool 27th and Queenstown 28th, with European papers up to date of saliting.

A general meeting of Italian republicans, headed by Mazzini, is announced to take place shortly at Lugano, in Switzerland.

A new journal is announced in Madrid, entitled

Et Desagravio, the object of which is to promote the interests of isabella and the Prince of Asturias.

The Pope has commuted the sentences of death against Ajani and Luzzi to hard labor for life, and against Ajani and Luzzi to hard habor for his, such has also reduced the sentences of their accomplices. The Prussian Moniteur of the 24th ult. published an ordinance convoking the Reichstag of Northern Germany for the 14th of the present month.

M. Pelletan, in the French Chambers, has presented an amendment to abolish the tax for the poor levied

in the theatres, and to replace it by the subventions inscribed in the Budget of 1870.

The Halian Correspondence states that an interna-tional commission is about to be named to fix the point of junction of the railways which will meet on

the French frontier, in the direction of Nice.

The Ralia of Naples announces that at Pompeii there have just been discovered, two marble busts—one of Pompey and the other of Brutus. They are both of fine execution, and have been placed in the national museum.

The Russian government is highly incensed at

Count Bismarck's speech respecting the confisca-tion of State property, and the Emperor has inti-mated to the King of Prussia that he hopes such an

unjustifiable proceeding will not be enforced.

The municipality of the city of Berlin has voted the sum of 1,000 thalers towards founding two new pubhe libraries and a further sum of 600 thalers for their yearly maintenance. All the booksellers offer gra-tuitous contributions of books.

tuitous contributions of books.

All the Turkish ports have been reopened to the Helienic flag, and the measures ordered against Greek subjects are abrogated. Negotiations for an effective resumption of relations between Turkey and Greece are being actively prosecuted, and the nominations of a Turkish Minister at Athens and a Greek one at Constantinople will take place speedily. Her Royal Highness the Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Helena of Great Britain and Ireland, was safely delivered of a prince at six o'clock on the morning of February 26.

On the 25th ult., in the sitting of the Chamber of Representatives, a bill relative to the expenditure

Representatives, a bill relative to the expenditure for objects of public worship was placed after the order of the day. The credit granted to the Bol andists and Jesuits has been suppressed. The budget of the Ministry of the Interior was adopted by 81 votes against s. A bill for the abolition of imprison-ment for debt has been made the order of the day for

the 27th uit.

The news of the explosion of the Austrian steam frigate Radetzky has caused the most painful feeling in Vienna. It seems that the accident occurred while the vessel was practising some evolutions, and that the explosion originated in one of the powder magazines. The Radetzky was of 1,826 tons, carried twenty-nine guns, and was built in England n 1855. About twenty lives have been saved in all out of a crew of nearly 400 persons.

A fearful accident is reported as having happened on the afternoon of the 26th ultimo in Betnnal Green, London. A number of workmen in the employment of Messrs. Lucas were engaged in repairing some brickwork on the Great Eastern Railway, when a heavily laden coal truck passed over the place. A portion of the structure fell without warning and buried several men in the rains. The bodies of five men have been recovered.

After a hearing which has extended through

twenty days the long drawn out action of Saurin versus Star and Kennedy has come to an end. On the 26th ult, the Lord Chief Justice presented the case to the jury in an elaborate address of seven hours in length, and the jury retired to consider their verdict at half-past five. Shortly before eight o'clock they came into court with a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, £500.

The Minister of Finance submitted on the 26th urt.

to the Lower House of the Diet a bill embodying the financial arrangement with the city of Frankfort, in accordance with which the government grants to the municipality of that city the sum of 2,000,000 florins. He announced at the same time that the King would present the town with 1,000,000 florins out of his private purse, and he ex-pressed a hope that this gracious act would win the earts of the inhabitants of Frankfort.

The United States Minister on the 25th ult. visited Manchester. In reply to an address of welcome Mr. Johnson said that, although the terms of the pro-posed convention between the two countries might be objectionable, it could never be that two nations so enlightened could discard the principle telegraph that although a majority of the committee of the senate were opposed to the convention they had not yet made their report. At a banquet in the entertained hostile feelings towards Great Britain.

The Alabama Claims Before Parliament. The Alabama Claims Before Parliament.
On the 25th uit, the Alabama claims were brought before the House of Commons by Mr. Torrens, who asked the Unier Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether any authentic information had been received of the rejection by the Senate of the United States of the convention regarding the Alabama claims, and whether he could mform the House that the protocol regarding mutual rights of naturalization had been accepted.

He was informed that no authentic intelligence has been received at the Foreign Office of the rejection by the Senate of the United States of the couvention regarding the Alabama claims.

tion by the Senate of the United States of the convention regarding the Alabama claims.

International Coinage, Weights, Mensures and Maritime Law.

At the second day's session of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, which was held in London on the 24th uit, among the subjects introduced was that of a system of international coinage, weights and measures, and also of maritime law.

The Braiford Chamber proposed the following resolution, which was adopted:—"That, in accordance with the report presented by the Royal Commission on international coinage, dated 25th July, 1868, her Majesty's government be requested to take necessary steps for convoking or joining an international conference, with power to arrange not only for international money, but at the same time for a uniform system of weights and measures."

Mr. Field, of Birmingham, proposed the following resolution:—"Whereas the Congress of Paris of 1856 has declared that all private property on the high seas, of belligeferits, shall be free from capture if placed in neutral vessels, thus compelling all merchants in future to ship their goods in neutral vessels only, and whereas this change in internation haw will disable Great Britain, when unfortunately again at war, from capturing her enemy's private property on the occan, as was her former practice, and will hand over the carrying trade to neutrals; therefore resoived, that the imperual, no less than the commercial interests of Great Britain, as well as the advance of civilization, alike demand the further change that shall deciare all private property on the occan, of belligerents as well as of neutrals, exempt from capture, unless contraband or breaking a blockade."

Mr. Law, of Bradford, accounted the resolution. Ultimately the previous question was moved and carried, that closing the business.

Postage.

On the evening of the 24th sit, the Associated Chambers of Commerce entertained Mr. John Bright, M. P., the Fresident of the Board of Trade, at a dinner held at the Westminister Paiace Hotel, London; the chair was occupied by S. S. Lloyd, of Birmingham, president of the Associated Chambers.

Mr. Bright replied to the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers," and in the course of his remarks made the following allusions to a system of ocean penny postage. Two questions have been mentioned during the discussions which appear to me, and must appear to all, to be very important. One is that of the laws affecting bank-rupt estates, of which I shall say nothing, because for aught I know the learned Attorney General may have the bill of the government in his pocket. The other question is that of the charge for postage for letters crossing the ocean. This is a question of pennles; it does not sound very large, but in my opinion it is of the greatest consequence that we should have ocean postage reduced to the very lowest figure. (Hear, hear,) it was not originally intended, and it is only a practice that has grown up with our wast extravagance, that Parliament should look to the Post Office for a large revenue but the public have a right to expect that for what they pay for their postage they should have the greatest possible convenience and advantage. There is no doubt whatevor that, as between here and the United States and between here and the Douter of the postage they should have the post Office for country, it would be possible for the Post Office to regotate a system by which letters should cross the ocean for a penny.

I speak disinterestedly. I do not know who suffers more from the penny postage than I do. (Laughter) I think I never did an act of such entire disinterestedness in my life as when I sent a subscription to Birmingham towards the erection of a monument to Sir Rowland Rill. Though not the chambers of commerce, but the Post Office, makes my life a burden to me, I think that the demand upon the government for the establishment of an ocean penny postage, particularly between this country and the United States, is one of those things every member of a chamber ought to consider—one of the first things he ought to ask for and obtain.

FRANCE.

The Minister of Finance and the Credit

Foncier.
In the sitting of the Legislative Body on the 20th ult, the debate upon the contract between the city of Paris and the Crédit Foncier of France was re-

of Paris and the Crédit Foncier of France was resumed.

M. Rouher delivered a speech in defence of the course pursued by M. Hausemann, the Prefect of the seine. In the course of his remarks he stated that the Emperor was not responsible for the admittation of the city of Paris, which was not a political, but an administrative question. He admitted that there had been some irregularities, mentioning in particular the employment of guarantee deposits. The most serious fauit that had been made was in exceeding by 50,000,000 the 100,000,000 of francs which the bank for advances for public works had been authorized to issue. The Minister of State concluded by stating that he was not opposed to the Chambers adding another article to the first paragraph of the bill, so as to authorize the city of Paris to contract loans in a direct manner; but it would then be necessary that this article should be sent back to the committee. M. Rouher's speech was received with much applause, and the article was referred accordingly to the committee.

Another Family Tragedy-A Ludy Shot by Her Husband and Son.
The Journal & Indre-ct-Loire of Tours, France.

publishes the following details of a crime which was committed on the night of the 25th ult, at the neighpublishes the following details of a crime which was committed on the night of the 25th ult. at the neighboring commune of St. Avertin:—Mr. Patry, formerly a banker of Tours, retired some years back from business and took up his abode on a charming property called La Houssale, which he had purchased in the commune of St. Avertin. His family consisted of his wife, four chidren and two servants. The house is situated at the bottom of a garden, walled in on all sides. Mme. Patry slept in a room on the ground floor, accompanied by two of her children, and her husband slept on the first floor with his two sons, one of whom is seveniteen years old. Between nine and ten o'clock in the evening, when Mr. Patry was on the point of retiring, he heard an unaccustomed noise on the ground floor, which caused him to go down stairs, armed with his gun. What could have been the cause of the disturbance or what passed in this brief period as yet remains a mystery. Shortly after, however, a shot was fired, and Mme. Patry, who was then standing in the garden, at a short distance from the house, fell mortally wounded in the side. A report is current that on going down stairs Mr. Patry surprised a stranger, who immediately made for the garden and cleared the wall into theroad. Two shots are said to have been fired at him from the window above. Mrs. Patry was still dressed in her usual evening garments.

Further details state that Mrs. Patry was struck by two shots, one taking effect in the side and another in the head, both being mortal wounds, and sure evidence is produced that two shots were fired from the up-stairs window at the time when Mr. Patry discharged his gun. The son acknowledges having fired of two barreis of his gun at a stranger whom he discovered clearing the garden wall. The intruder has been recognized, and will by his testimony before the court doubless clear up the mystery that envelopes this sad affair.

AUSTRIA.

Particulars of the Explosion of the Austrian Frigate Radetzky. [Vienna (Feb. 22) correspondence London Morning Post.

Vienna (Feb. 22) correspondence London Morning Post.

The first news of this catastrophe was received here by the naval section of the War Ministry about three P. M. on Saturday by a telegram from the commander of the island and fortress of Lissa, in which it is stated that the optic telegraph stationed at Fort Weilington had signalled the information that at a distance of about ten miles to the northeast of the island an Austrian rigate was blown up. The commander of the island instantly telegraphed to the vessels stationed at Trieste and Zara and to the commander of the squadron at Gravosa, to proceed at once to the seene of the accident; and the fron-clad frigate Feruinand Max, as well as the gunboat Hum and the stonadard and stonadard a

spacener to the same orders to reduce any assistance that was necessary and possible under the circumstances.

A deputation of the corporation of Lissa also set out to the place where the accident had occurred, and on their return yesterday they telegraphed that of the whole crew and marines on board, numbering in all 3d men besides the captain, only twenty-tirce had been able to save themselves by swimming.

The Radetzky was under sail, on a cruise for gun practice, and had no steam up, so that the accident could not have been caused by the explosion of the boiler or a cylinder.

According to the meagre authentic reports which have reached the War Office and the newspapers wet cartridges were being dried in the powder room. The ammunition had been unpacked and quantities of powder were lying about on the foor, and the workmen were consequently commanded to enter the room only in felt slippers. They, however, came in with their boots on, without putting feit slippers over them. The powder coming in contact with the hard soles of the boots, ignited from the friction caused thereby, and a terrific explosion sent the vessel and 3d men to destruction.

The list of persons who have been saved contains

The list of persons who have been saved contains the names of the naval cadet Karl Barth, that of the pilot Devcich, the first mate and two saliors—ail of them seriously injured. Five satiors are injured but slyghtly; the two quartermasters, the freman and ten saliors escaped unhurt. All others persended among thavid acidets, two physicians, and five engineers, who had aimost all of them been present at the battle of Lissa. The chapitan was fortunately absent, and so was a young castel named Fritz, who was three days before the catastrophe fremoved to the hospital at Pola. The marines on board were nearly all recruits. There were two powder rooms in the vessel—one in front, near the bow, and the other just underneath the officers' cabin. All the metal work in these powder rooms was made of copper, and the hospital and included the second of the second of the list of the work in these powder rooms was made of copper, and the hospital and included the list of the second of the list of the second of the list of the second of the list of

mission of a completely detailed report of the complete state of t by the catastrophe will be held to-day.
Letters from Trieste state that the publ greatly incensed against the officers with manipulations with powder in the pow a kind of work which is usually perform where there is less danger of an explosiprehended, attended by such fearful cons

THE EASTERN QUESTION

Greece and the Conference of Paris,
The following is the text of the memorandum M.
Rangabé, the Minister of Greece at Paris, hanced to
the Marquis de la Valette with the note explaining

the Marquis de la Valette with the note explaining the motives of his refusal to assist at the Conference assembled to appease the Greco-Turkian confict—
I. Causso of the conflict.—The Powers assembled in conference having decided that they would confine themselves to the consideration of the present difference only, without reference to its primary cause, it is wident that the sole immediate cause to which the rupture can be attributed is to be found in the very strong notes and the ultimatum recently addressed by the Olioman government to Greece. There has not been on the part of the latter acytting which could be confident as a part of the latter acytting which could be confident as a part of the latter acytting which could properly justify a sudden resolution. It has been, morrower, on many occasions, on the part of the Greek Minister, the subject of free explanations, the importance of which the furthed government appeared to understand and to be safefied with. After all to go back to this distant cause would be to overstep the limits ixed by the Confarence, and Greece would then have the right to claim also an examination of the times of her aympathies for the Greians.

But it has been said it is just because the grievances were old, that the cup was full of them, only one drop was required to make it run over; this drop was the insult given to the Turkish Minister by the volunteers who on their way to Cree passed under his windows, in full daylight, with their flag inging, the Greek government being unable or sawilling to prevent them.

This fact, deplorable as it would have been even sup-

nying, the trees government being unasis or sawing or prevent them. This fact, deplorable as it would have been even supposing that its authors had lonly in view to brave or to compromise the government, was, nevertheless, often of the world, was capable of a received in a spirit of conditation, artistics described and received in a spirit of conditation, artistics demanded in take place; M. Delyannia, the Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs, in one of his answers to M. Potentiales are provided in the conditation of the second that the provided in the conditation of the conditat

covernment should effectually protect their re-entry into their own country.

Fourth Point.—That the ships the Enosis, the Crete and the Panhellenium be disarrand or, at least, that the Greek ports be closed against them.

Fith. Point.—That the bands of volunteers now existing shall be broken up and that the formation of new ones shall be prevented.

Mr. Rangabe replies to each of these five points severally and then sums up as follows:—

SIVE ARREST FORMER TO CREET OF CREEK SEVERALLY AND THE SUBJECT OF THE ULTINATUM.

Rut the Porte did not content herself to send to Greece an altimatum so ill supported. She also accompanied it by violent measures, which have greatly aggravated the difficulties of the situation. One of her mayal olicers gave the chase with hostile intentions, in the Greek Archipelage, to a merchant ship with the Greek tag, menused with former chase which contains the strength of the chase Turkey in a very short lime to the great injury of their material interests, and the Turkish ports have been shut up to the Greek ships, thereby inflicting on our trade an incalculable loss. Greece has not had recourse to reprisals. She deems it is a duty impossed upon her by justice and humanity to lessen as much as possible the disastrous effects of a conflict and not to make innocents suffer by them. She has declared that the Ottomac subjects established on her territory would continue to enjoy the protection of her laws. In conformity with the declared annocent, see recognizes that the Turkish Rear Admiral was entitled to summon before the competent courts of justine entitled to summon before the competent courts of justine the capital of the Enosis, of whose conduct he complains. of the legal netraces of the Crown, copy of which is burely annexed, his recognities that the Turkish Rap Admiral was entitled to summon before the competent courts of justice the captain of the Enoiss, of whose conduct he complains. Having shown such a spirit of moderation, Greece has the right to insist that, before resuming her ancient relations of friendship with Turkey, Turkey should authorise, on her own side, the indictinent of the Turkish Rear Admirat on the charges brought against him by the captain of the Enoiss; that she should give real guarantees in the transfer of the should give real guarantees for hencefurth behaving better towards the Greeks, and treating them on the same footing as the subjects of the other European nations.

RESUME.

THE SHICIDE IN IRVING PLACE

An investigation was yesterday held at No. 1 Irving place by Coroner Schirmer on the body of Henry M. steele, the man who committed suicide by shooting himself through the brain, as already fully reported in the HERALD.

Mr. Jacob F. Bartow, brother-in-law of deceased doing business at No. 107 Franklin street, made a lengthy deposition, in which he gave the facts con-nected with Mr. Steele's melancholy death, mainly corroborative of those already printed. While the witness was arranging the things of deceased the latter walked into a closet where there were some decoy ducks on the shelf, and, pointing to them, remarked to Mr. Bar-tow, "Put them in front of the ferryboat on the river and see how many ducks you would shoot."

A few moments subsequently deceased said that he would a ave taken his life the night before but for his fears of the next world; that he had made his will and given all his property to his mother, and that he did not want his murderers to have it, from which the witness believed he referred to his wife, from whom he was divorced, and his mother.

Deputy Coroner Cushman examined the body and found the right temporal bone crushed in and the brain protruding. The opening in the skull was about two inches in length and three inches wide.

The jury found "that deceased came to his death by saicide by shooting himself while laboring under temporary aberration of mind, at No. I frying place, March 10, 1869." Deceased was thirty-three years of age and a native of Baltimore.

Below will be found a copy of a letter left by deceased for Mr. Bartow the night previous to his death:—

DEAR BARTOW:—I have burned all my letters and papera. river and see how many ducks you would shoot."

DEAR BANTOW:—I have burned all my letters and papers, and burn any that may come for me at the Brevoort House. I have about \$40 at Opdyke's, \$1,20 at Chemical Back; should be at Forstman's about \$4,80. I have left it all to mother. Billings has my will.

HENRY M. STEELE.

MONDAY MORNING.

On the opposite side of the same sheet of paper is I fear I may go crazy and kill myself, so I write this.

THE GERMANS AND THE EXCISE LAW.

A memorial has been forwarded to Albany, signed by Magnus Gross, as president, and Albert Goett-mann, as secretary of the German Democratic Ex-ecutive Committee, and by Dr. William Schirmer, as president, and Herrmann Schroeter, as accretary of the German Democratic General Committee, asking for the repeal of the present local or metropolitan the German Democratic General Committee, asking for the repeal of the present local or metropolitan Excise law, and for the passage of an act to be in force throughout the State prescribing equal penalties and imposing equal conditions, and leaving the execution of the law and the enactment of minor regulations to the local authorities, in the coties of New York and Brooklyn to the Common Council of each. This memorial takes, moreover, the high ground that a well matured excise law should include the regulation of the sale of all beverages and not only wines, liquirs and beer, so that the control of the licensing authority be extended over those places also where, under the guise of sodawater or cider. Ilquor is sold, and which class of places are considered among the most immoral and obvoxious. The memorial further claims that offenders against the Excise law should be tried in the ordinary tribunals of the State and that no arrests be hereafter permitted except on a warrant issued by a magistrate upon a complaint previously made under oath. The memorial, the substance of which only is here indicated, will be substance of other control of the Twelfth district of this forenoon, and will be formally presented for reference by Mr. Honry Woltmann, the Assemblyman for the Twelfth district of this city. It is understood that, with a view to enact the prayer of the memorialits, Mr. Woltmann will also introduce a bill embodying the principles of the memorial, and will ask its speedy consideration in complitives.